



Repeater: NØDX 145.190 MHz (Input 144.590 / Tone 192.8 Hz)


[Home](#)
[Meetings](#)
[Members](#)
[Officers](#)
[Newsletter](#)
[E. Iowa DX Bulletin](#)
[Buy-Sell-Trade](#)
[DXCC Card Checking](#)
[About EIDXA](#)
[History](#)
[Constitution & Bylaws](#)
[DX Resources](#)

The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 200, December 15, 2023

Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Articles will remain in *The Bulletin* while active, but with a 5-week maximum.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section, updated daily; and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

The bulletin is available at <http://www.arrl.org>

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Propagation data is from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration's [Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)



Solar-Terrestrial Data

16 Dec 2023 1853 GMT
 SFI:144 SN: 128
 A-Index: 12
 K-Index: 1
 X-Ray: C1.6
 304A: 150.3 @ SEM
 Ptn Flx: 14200
 Elc Flx: 23700
 Aurora: 1/n=1.99
 Mag (Bz): -3.6
 Solar Wind: 439.2
 Geomag Field VR QUIET
 Sig Noise Lvl S0-S1
 Current Solar Image



<http://www.n0nbh.com>
 Copyright Paul L. Herreman 2023

Solar data courtesy of:
[Solar Data Banners & Widgets](#)

DX News

3W, VIET NAM. Effective December 1st, **3W9T** and **XV9T** are the new callsigns issued to Eddy Visser (ex 3W1T and XV1X). See <https://www.qrz.com/db/XV1X> for QSL instructions.

-[425DXN # 1701 December 9, 2023] (1208-1222)

3W, VIET NAM. Roman, RN5M is QRV as **XV9MA** from Mui Ne. Activity is in his spare time on 160 to 6 meters. His **length of stay is unknown**. QSL via [LY5M](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 50 December 14, 2023] (1215-0105)

5R, MADAGASCAR. Moise, F4EZG is QRV as **5R8VE** from Nosy Fali (AF-057) **until December 3rd**, and from the main island of Madagascar (AF-013) **December 5th to January 3rd, 2024**. Activity is on 20 to 10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL to [F4EZG](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 48 November 30, 2023] (1201-0105)

6Y, JAMAICA. Akira, JA7FYF, is currently active as **AC6XT/6Y** on 30-10m (CW) **until January**. QSL via [JA7FYF](#).

-[DXNL # 2384 December 13, 2023] (1215-0105)

7Q, MALAWI. Don, K6ZO is QRV as **7Q6M** from Embangweni **until May 13, 2024**, and has been active on 160 meters. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 48 November 30, 2023] (1201-0105)

8P, BARBADOS. Neil, GMØPWS, pays Barbados (NA-021) a visit from **December 8th to 18th**, signing **8P9BH** on 40, 20, and 10m (SSB only). QSL via eQSL.

-[DXNL # 2383 December 6, 2023] (1208-1222)

9K, KUWAIT. Members of the Kuwait Amateur Radio Society are QRV as **9K9BHR** **until December 18th** in celebration of neighboring Bahrain's Commemoration Day. QSL via operators' instructions.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 50 December 14, 2023] (1215-1222)

9N, NEPAL. Hoping for "some decent low band runs", Robert, **9N7AA** has rented a bungalow over the winter period. It is located "at the edge of Kathmandu valley but much higher, with a clear shot from 270-90 degrees, and far enough not to suffer from the crazy man-made noise I have in Kathmandu". He will be there **on December 8th for two nights** and **then during "selected weekends" until the end of February**. Bookmark <https://www.qrz.com/db/9N7AA> for updates.

-[425DXN # 1701 December 9, 2023] (1208-0112)

A7, QATAR. Special callsign **A71QND** is the for the Qatar Amateur Radio Society to celebrate Qatar National Day (**December 18th**). Also taking part in the celebrations are the Bahrain Amateur Radio Society as **A91QTR** on **December 12th-18th**, the Kuwait Amateur Radio Society as **9K9QATAR** on **December 14th-20th**, the Emirates Amateur Radio Society as **A6ØQATAR** on **December 18th-22nd** (individual operators may append a serial number to the special callsign, and be active as A6ØQATAR/Ø, A6ØQATAR/1, etc.).

-[425DXN # 1702 December 16, 2023] (1215-1222)

A9, BAHRAIN. Members of the Bahrain Amateur Radio Society will be active as **A91CD** on **December 12th-18th**. QSL via [EC6DX](#) and LoTW. Bahrain's Commemoration Day (December 17th) honors Bahraini fallen servicemen in military, civil, and humanitarian fields.

-[425DXN # 1701 December 9, 2023] (1208-1222)

A9, BAHRAIN. Celebrating the Kingdom of Bahrain's National Day, the Bahrain Amateur Radio Society will be active as **A91ND** on **December 1st-16th**. QSL via [EC6DX](#).

-[425DXN # 1699 November 25, 2023] (1124-1222)

C9, MOZAMBIQUE. Eddy, OE3SEU, travels in Mozambique **during December** and will be active as **C91SEU/p** via the QO-100 satellite. QSL only via LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2383 December 6, 2023] (1208-1229)

CE9, ANTARCTICA. A member of the 69th Russian Antarctic Expedition, Igor, RQ8K will be stationed at Progress Station, Antarctica **until the end of April 2025**. In his spare time, he is active as **RI1ANE**.

-[425DXN # 1702 December 16, 2023] (1215-0119)

CE9, ANTARCTICA. Juan, LU8DBS is QRV as **L36Z**, **LU1ZV**, and **LU8DBS/Z** from Base Esperanza. Activity is in his spare time on 80 to 10 meters using SSB, PSK31, and FT8. His **length of stay is unknown**. QSL via [LU4DXU](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 49 December 7, 2023] (1208-0112)

CE9, ANTARCTICA. Dave, VK2JDS will be active occasionally as **VKØDS** from Davis Station, Antarctica from **December 2023 until November 2024**. The bands that he hopes to be on are "some HF bands, possibly WSPR on 6 meters (depending on local science projects), 2 meters EME (only on occasions when I get time off and conditions are favorable), possibly 23cm EME". Nothing is certain, he says, as "weather conditions and station duties will take precedence". QSL direct to [VK2JDS](#) and LoTW.
-[425DXN # 1699 November 25, 2023] (1201-1229)

CN, MOROCCO. Yannick, F6FYD will be active as **CN2YD** from Marrakech, Morocco from **December 1st to March 15, 2024**. He plans to operate as CN2YD/p from IOTA group AF-065 sometime during his stay. QSL via [F6FYD](#).
-[425DXN # 1699 November 25, 2023] (1124-1229)

D4, CAPE VERDE. Marcus, OE3MCS will be active as **D44MCS** from Sal Island (AF-086), Cape Verde on **December 11th-22nd**. He will operate SSB, CW and possibly FT8 and RTTY "holiday style from the beach" on 40-10 meters and maybe 6 meters. QSL via [OE3MCS](#); he will upload his log to ClubLog, LoTW and eQSL.
-[425DXN # 1701 December 9, 2023] (1208-1222)

DXCC TOP TWENTY. Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of December 15, 2023:

1. P5	DPRK (North Korea)	11. 3Y/B	Bouvet Island
2. BS7H	Scarborough Reef	12. ZS8	Prince Edward & Marion Islands
3. CEØX	San Felix Islands	13. KH4	Midway Island
4. BV9P	Pratas Island	14. VKØM	Macquarie Island
5. KH7K	Kure Island	15. PYØS	Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
6. KH3	Johnston Island	16. PYØT	Trindade & Martim Vaz Islands
7. FT/G	Glorioso Island	17. KP5	Desecheo Island
8. 3Y/P	Peter 1 Island	18. VP8S	South Sandwich Islands
9. FT5/X	Kerguelen Island	19. KH5	Palmyra & Jarvis Islands
10. YVØ	Aves Island	20. ZL9	New Zealand Subantarctic Islands

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>

-[KØCF December 15, 2023] (1208-1229)

E6, NIUE. Sigfrido, IW9FMD is working in Alofi and is active in his spare time as **E6S** on the H/VHF bands. QSL via [IT9YVQ](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 49 December 7, 2023] (1208-0112)

EA, SPAIN. Celebrating Christmas and the New Year, members of Radio Club Liria (EA5RCL) will be active as **EH5XMAS** from **December 7th to January 7th**. QSL via the bureau to [EA5RCL](#), LoTW and eQSL.
-[425DXN # 1700 December 2, 2023] (1201-0105)

FK, NEW CALEDONIA. Jean-Louis, F5NHJ is active again as **FK/F5NHJ** from New Caledonia's main island (Grande Terre, OC-032), with side trips to nearby Ile des Pins (also OC-032) **until mid-January 2024**. He operates digital modes, CW and SSB on 80-6m. He will upload his log to ClubLog and LoTW.
-[425DXN # 1699 November 25, 2023] (1124-1229)

G, ENGLAND. Special callsigns **GBØWHO**, **GB1WHO**, **GB2WHO**, **GB4WHO**, **GB5WHO**, **GB6WHO**, **GB8WHO** and **GB9WHO** are for members of the Chertsey Radio Club to celebrate the 60th anniversary of science fiction cult series "Doctor Who" **until December 20th**. QSL via LoTW and eQSL. Broadcast by the BBC, "Doctor Who" has been listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the TV's longest-running sci-fi show in the world. The series began on November 23, 1963, and the original run aired 694 episodes consecutively across 26 seasons until 1989; it was revived in 2005 after 16 years off the screen.
-[425DXN # 1699 November 25, 2023] (1124-1222)

HR, HONDURAS. Gerard, F2JD will be active again as **HR5/F2JD** from Copan, Honduras from **November 25th to March 21st, 2024**. He will operate CW, SSB and FT8/ FT4 on the

HF bands. QSL via F6AJA; log search on <http://LesNouvellesDX.fr/voirlogs.php>.

-[425DXN # 1695 October 28, 2023] (1124-1229)

HS, THAILAND. Brad, VK2BY will be active again as **HSØZNR** from the Nam Yuen district in northeastern Thailand from **December 6th to January 14th**. He will be QRV on 160-10 meters and will focus on working stations "that contribute to LoTW and eQSL". QSL direct to VK2BY and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1699 November 25, 2023] (1201-0105)

JD1/O, OGASAWARA. Members of the Kansai Okinawa Ham Club will be active as **JD1YCE** from Ogasawara on **December 9th-19th**. They will operate CW, SSB and digital modes on the HF bands and 6 meters. QSL via LoTW, ClubLog's OQRS, or direct to JA3AVO.

-[425DXN # 1700 December 2, 2023] (1208-1222)

K, UNITED STATES. Brad, N9EN will be active again as **W4A** on **December 16th-18th**, commemorating the birthdate of Edwin H. Armstrong, the electrical engineer and inventor who developed FM radio and the superheterodyne receiver system. He will operate CW only on 160-10 meters. QSL via N9EN.

-[425DXN # 1701 December 9, 2023] (1215-1222)

K, UNITED STATES. Richard, K2ZR, signs **K2ZR/4** from the Florida Keys (NA-062) from **December 15th to the end of the year**. QSL via K2ZR.

-[DXNL # 2384 December 13, 2023] (1215-0105)

K, UNITED STATES. He cannot provide specific dates, however Matt, AF2F will be visiting Long Beach Island (NA-111) "quite frequently on business throughout the **month of December**, probably **extending into January** with a week-long break for holidays". He will be active as **AF2F/2** on 10 and 12 meter CW, possibly with some FT8 later. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS.

-[425DXN # 1701 December 9, 2023] (1208-0112)

OH, FINLAND. Once again Santa Radio, **OF9X** (Old Father Nine Xmas) will be active on **December 11th-31st** on all amateur radio bands CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS, or via OH2BH. The activity is organized by Radio Club of Pusula (OH9W) and Radio Arcala (OH8X). The operating team includes Timo OH1NX, Raimo OH2BCI, Martti OH2BH, Niko OH2GEK, Arto OH2KW, Erik OH2LAK, Pekka OH2TA, Pauli OH5BQ, Anne OH2YL, Jukka OH2MA, Jorma OH2KI, Jyri OH2KM, Juha OH2LQ, Henri OH3JR, Risto OH3UU, Tapani OH5BM, Alex OH5UY/UT5UY, Veijo OH6KN, Mika OH6NVC and Esa OH8KTN.

-[425DXN # 1701 December 9, 2023] (1208-1229)

ON, BELGIUM. UBA Section Bruxelles-Est (ON5UB) will be active as **OR79NUTS** on **December 16th-17th** to commemorate the 79th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge during World War II. The suffix of the special callsign is General Anthony C. McAuliffe's famous single word reply in response to a surrender ultimatum. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau.

-[425DXN # 1702 December 16, 2023] (1215-1222)

PA, NETHERLANDS. Look for **PC1ØØII** to be active **throughout December** to celebrate the centenary of the third 2-way contact between Europe and America conducted by Henk Jesse, PCII in the Netherlands and 2AGB in the US during the night of December 26-27, 1923. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS, LoTW, or via PA1AW.

-[425DXN # 1701 December 9, 2023] (1208-1229)

PA, NETHERLANDS. Celebrating Christmas and the New Year, special callsigns **PA23XMAS** and **PD23SANTA** will be active on **December 1st-31st**, while **PD24HNY** will be QRV **until January 31st**. QSL cards will not be issued, but a certificate will be available

(see <https://www.qrz.com/db/PA23XMAS>).

-[425DXN # 1699 November 25, 2023] (1124-1229)

PJ2, CURACAO. Jeff, K8ND is QRV as **PJ2ND**. Activity is on the HF bands. He plans to be QRV as **PJ2T** in the ARRL 160 Meter contest (**December 1st-3rd**), and the upcoming ARRL 10 Meter (**December 9th-10th**), Stew Perry Topband DX Challenge (**December 30th-31st**), and the CQ World Wide 160 Meter CW (**January 26th-28th**) contests. QSL PJ2ND to [K8ND](#), and PJ2T via [KU9C](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 48 November 30, 2023] (1201-0105)

S5, SLOVENIA. Special event station **S524PMC** will be active from **December 8th to January 8, 2024**, to promote the PMC Contest, sponsored by the Radio Club Slovenj Gradec (S59DCD). The International Association of Peace Messenger Cities was established in 1988 to recognize and encourage the role and responsibility cities have in creating a culture of peace. The PMC Contest, promoting contacts between stations located in the Peace Messenger Cities and the rest of the world, will be held on **January 6th-7th**. Complete information can be found on <https://www.s59dcd.si/index.php/sl/>.

-[425DXN # 1699 November 25, 2023] (1208-0112)

SV, GREECE. Special callsign **SZ65RAAG** is the for the Radio Amateur Association of Greece to celebrate its 65th anniversary on **December 16th-31st**. The RAAG has been an IARU member society since 1959. Look for activity on all bands SSB, CW and digital modes. Four certificates will be available, see <https://sv2rck.gr/SZ65RAAG/> for information. QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1702 December 16, 2023] (1215-0105)

T32, EAST KIRIBATI. Members of the Rebel DX Group are QRV as **T32TT** from Christmas Island (OC-024) **until December 21st**. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via OQRS.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 48 November 30, 2023] (1201-1222)

TG, GUATEMALA. Steve, K4IM is QRV as **TG9AWS**. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using mainly FT8 but plans to soon be active using CW and SSB as well. His **length of stay is unknown**. QSL via [N2OO](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 50 December 14, 2023] (1215-0105)

UA, EUROPEAN RUSSIA. Special callsigns **R12ØRAEM, R12ØA, R12ØD, R12ØI, R12ØK, R12ØM, R12ØN, R12ØR, R12ØS, R12ØT, R12ØW** and **R12ØX** will be active on **December 15th-25th**, particularly on December 24th for the annual RAEM Contest (<https://raem.srr.ru/rules/>). The special callsigns celebrate the 120th anniversary since the birth Ernst T. Krenkel (1903-1971), the legendary Arctic explorer and radioman (callsign RAEM) on various polar stations and on the first drifting ice station North Pole-1. See <https://hamlog.online/club/srr/997/> for the certificate.

-[425DXN # 1702 December 16, 2023] (1215-1229)

V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS. Once again John, W5JON will be active as **V47JA** from St. Kitts on **December 9th-18th**. He will operate SSB and FT8 on the HF bands and 6 meters. QSL via LoTW, or direct to [W5JON](#).

-[425DXN # 1700 December 2, 2023] (1208-1222)

V5, NAMIBIA. Marc, ZS6DOT is QRV as **V51NA** from Walvis Bay. Activity is on 40, 20, 17, and 15 meters using mostly SSB. QSL to [ZS6DOT](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 48 November 30, 2023] (1201-0105)

V6, MICRONESIA. A group of operators are QRV as **V6EU** from Chuuk Island, IOTA OC 011, **until December 16th**. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. QSL via [DL2AWG](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 50 December 14, 2023] (1215-1222)

VP8, FALKLAND IS. Commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Falkland Islands Government Aviation Service, special event station **VP8FLY** will be active from the northeast end of Stanley airport, Falkland Islands (SA-002) during the month of **December**, and especially on **December 19**. QSL direct to [VP8LP](#).
-[425DXN # 1699 November 25, 2023] (1201-1229)

VU, INDIA. Operators Sharmi, VU3OAA and Rhea, VU3OAC will be QRV as **AT2BOTA** on **December 16th and 17th** from Junpat Sea Beach, BOTA 62417, and then from Haripur Sea Beach, BOTA 62418. QSL direct to [AT2BOTA](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 50 December 14, 2023] (1215-1222)

VU4, ANDAMAN & NICOBAR IS. Krish, W4VKU, will be active as **VU4N** from **December 16th to 26th** on 160-6m. For details and FT8 frequencies see: <https://www.qrz.com/db/vu4n>. QSL via [W4VKU](#), OQRS, LoTW.
-[DXNL # 2384 December 13, 2023] (1215-1229)

XT, BURKINA FASO. Harald, DF2WO will be active again as **XT2AW** from Burkina Faso on **December 6th – 19th**. He operates all modes on the HF bands, 6 meters and via QO-100. QSL via [M0QXO's OQRS](#) and LoTW.
-[425DXN # 1700 December 2, 2023] (1201-1222)

XW, LAOS. Vincent, F4BKV is QRV as **XW4KV until mid-2024**. Activity is mostly on 15 and 10 meters using FT8. QSL to [F4BKV](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 50 December 14, 2023] (1215-0119)

YJ, VANUATU. Mike, VK2BXE, has returned to Port Vila and is active as **YJ0MB** on 20-10m. QSL via [VK2BXE](#).
-[DXNL # 2383 December 6, 2023] (1208-1229)

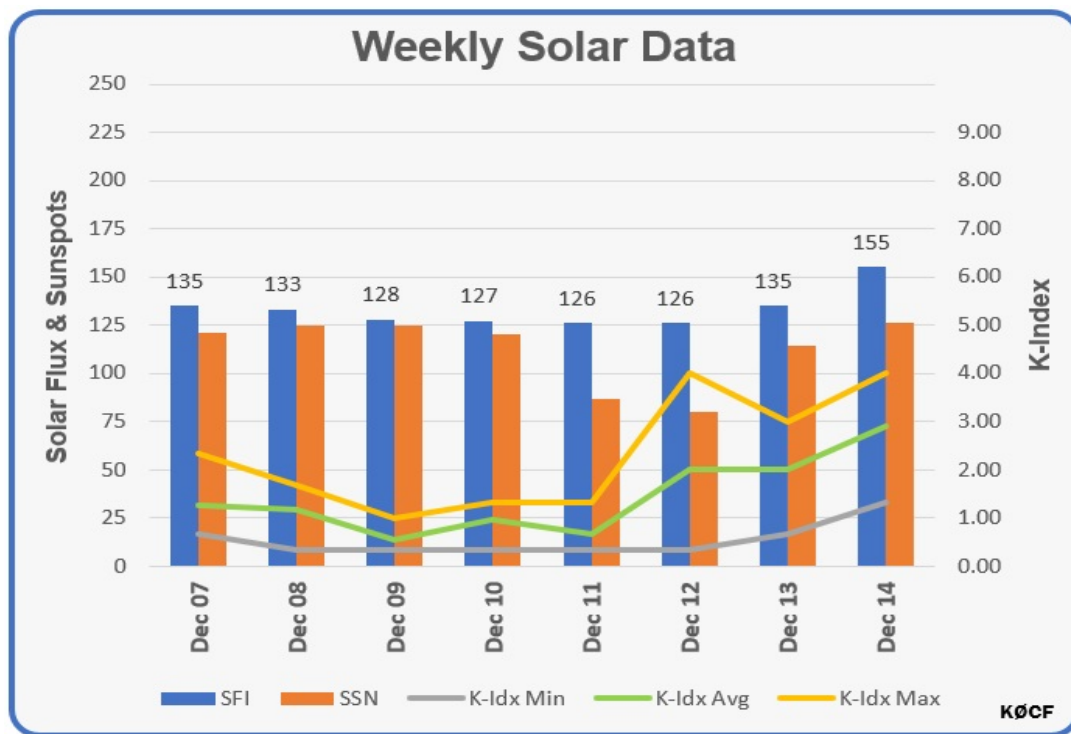
YO, ROMANIA. Special callsign **YR8XMAS** is currently active and remains available on the bands **until January 10th**. QSL only via eQSL or qrz.com.
-[DXNL # 2384 December 13, 2023] (1215-0112)

Z6, REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO. Gab, HB9TSW is QRV as **Z68BG** from the Slatina Air Base **until December 19th**. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands using only CW. QSL to [HB9TSW](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 49 December 7, 2023] (1208-1222)

ZD7, ST. HELENA. Chris, HB9FIY and his wife Agata will be QRV as **ZD7CA** and **ZD7AA**, respectively, from **December 16th to January 14th**. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using SSB and various digital modes. QSL via [EA5GL](#), LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 50 December 14, 2023] (1215-0119)

ZF, CAYMAN ISLANDS. Bruce, K3NQ is QRV as **ZF2NQ** from Grand Cayman **until December 20th**. Activity is holiday style on 17, 15, 12, and 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via [M0QXO](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 50 December 14, 2023] (1215-1222)

Propagation (Updated daily)



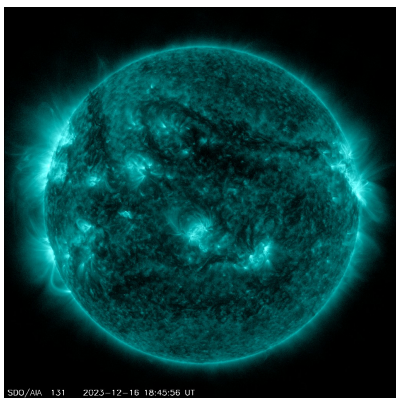
December 15, 2023

The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-Index (K-Idx) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wave-length of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.



Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!

Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Thursday, December 7th through yesterday, December 14th.

The average solar flux was down 9 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 155 on Thursday, December 14th, following a low of 126 on December 12th.

The average sunspot count was down by 8 for the week, peaking at 126 on Thursday, December 14th after a weekly low of 80 on December 12th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 2.3 with a maximum of 4.0 on Thursday,

December 14th, resulting in generally quiet geomagnetic conditions.

Solar flare activity since December 7th has been moderate with 8 major flares, the largest of which was a major X 2.8 event on Thursday, December 14th.

Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Thursday, December 7th through 1407 UTC, December 15th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	Dec 15	0715	M 6.3
2	Dec 14	1702	X 2.8
3	Dec 14	1348	M 2.3
4	Dec 14	0744	M 5.8
5	Dec 10	2243	M 1.4
6	Dec 10	0353	M 2.3
7	Dec 09	0955	M 1.5
8	Dec 08	2307	M 5.4

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Dec 15	55%	25%	145
Dec 16	55%	25%	140
Dec 17	40%	15%	140

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA only once a week, on Monday.

Date	Flux	Kp
Dec 15	122	2
Dec 16	122	3
Dec 17	124	3
Dec 18	125	4

Date	Flux	Kp
Dec 19	130	5
Dec 20	135	3
Dec 21	135	2
Dec 22	135	5

Date	Flux	Kp
Dec 23	140	4
Dec 24	140	2
Dec 25	150	2
Dec 26	150	2

Highs for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 234 on January 15, 2023.

Sunspots: 227 on July 11, 2023.

Favorite Propagation web sites

Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map: <https://prop.kc2g.com/>

<https://www.spaceweather.com/>

<https://www.solarham.net/>

<https://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>

A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!

-[Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources]

Contest Calendar

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
OK DX RTTY Contest	Dec 16	0000Z	Dec 16	2400Z	Rules
Croatian CW Contest	Dec 16	1400Z	Dec 17	1400Z	Rules
ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	Dec 17	1800Z	Dec 17	2359Z	Rules
RAC Winter Contest	Dec 30	0000Z	Dec 30	2359Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Dec 30	1500Z	Dec 31	1500Z	Rules
ARRL RTTY Roundup	Jan 6	1800Z	Jan 7	2400Z	Rules
ARRL Kids Day	Jan 6	1800Z	Jan 6	2359Z	Rules
YB DX Contest	Jan 13	0000Z	Jan 13	2359Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, CW	Jan 13	1800Z	Jan 14	0600Z	Rules
Hungarian DX Contest	Jan 20	1200Z	Jan 21	1200Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, SSB	Jan 20	1800Z	Jan 21	0600Z	Rules
ARRL January VHF Contest	Jan 20	1900Z	Jan 22	0359Z	Rules
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	Jan 26	2200Z	Jan 28	2159Z	Rules
BARTG RTTY Sprint	Jan 27	1200Z	Jan 28	1200Z	Rules
Winter Field Day	Jan 27	1700Z	Jan 28	1700Z	Rules

Vermont QSO Party	Feb 3	0000Z	Feb 4	2400Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	Feb 3	0001Z	Feb 4	2359Z	Rules
Mexico RTTY International Contest	Feb 3	1200Z	Feb 4	2359Z	Rules
Minnesota QSO Party	Feb 3	1400Z	Feb 3	2400Z	Rules
British Columbia QSO Party	Feb 3	1600Z	Feb 4	2400Z	Rules
North American Sprint, CW	Feb 4	0000Z	Feb 4	0359Z	Rules
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	Feb 10	0000Z	Feb 11	2400Z	Rules
ARRL School Club Roundup	Feb 12	1300Z	Feb 16	2359Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	Feb 17	0000Z	Feb 18	2400Z	Rules
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	Feb 23	2200Z	Feb 25	2159Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, RTTY	Feb 24	1800Z	Feb 25	0600Z	Rules
North Carolina QSO Party	Feb 25	1500Z	Feb 26	0100Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	Mar 2	0000Z	Mar 3	2400Z	Rules
Open Ukraine RTTY Championship	Mar 2	1800Z	Mar 3	1359Z	Rules
YB DX RTTY Contest	Mar 9	0000Z	Mar 9	2359Z	Rules
Oklahoma QSO Party	Mar 9	1400Z	Mar 10	2100Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Mar 9	1500Z	Mar 10	1500Z	Rules
Idaho QSO Party	Mar 9	1900Z	Mar 10	1900Z	Rules
North American Sprint, RTTY	Mar 10	0000Z	Mar 10	0359Z	Rules
Wisconsin QSO Party	Mar 10	1800Z	Mar 11	0100Z	Rules
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	Mar 16	0200Z	Mar 18	0200Z	Rules
Russian DX Contest	Mar 16	1200Z	Mar 17	1200Z	Rules

-[Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)]